

From: Nick Aubert
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 11:28am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Hi,

I am writing to express my disagreement with the current terms of the Microsoft settlement. Intellectual property and copyright laws applied to the technology industry should foster healthy competition and encourage development, which benefits consumers and business.

Microsoft uses intellectual property laws and it's virtual monopoly over the desktop operating system market to crush competition at every opportunity. If Microsoft is allowed to have it's way, it may very well succeed in it's efforts to deny consumers the right to choose from among competing products. This would be bad for U.S. interests, as well as bad for the world at large.

The IT industry is too important for any single company to be allowed to dominate it, the way Microsoft currently dominates the desktop. Microsoft must be made to fully disclose it's Windows applications programming interface ("API") set, as well opening it's file formats to competing companies and operating systems.

Thanks for your attention.

Nick Aubert
Network Technician